

2016

LEXINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT



Submitted by:
Chief M.E. Riley

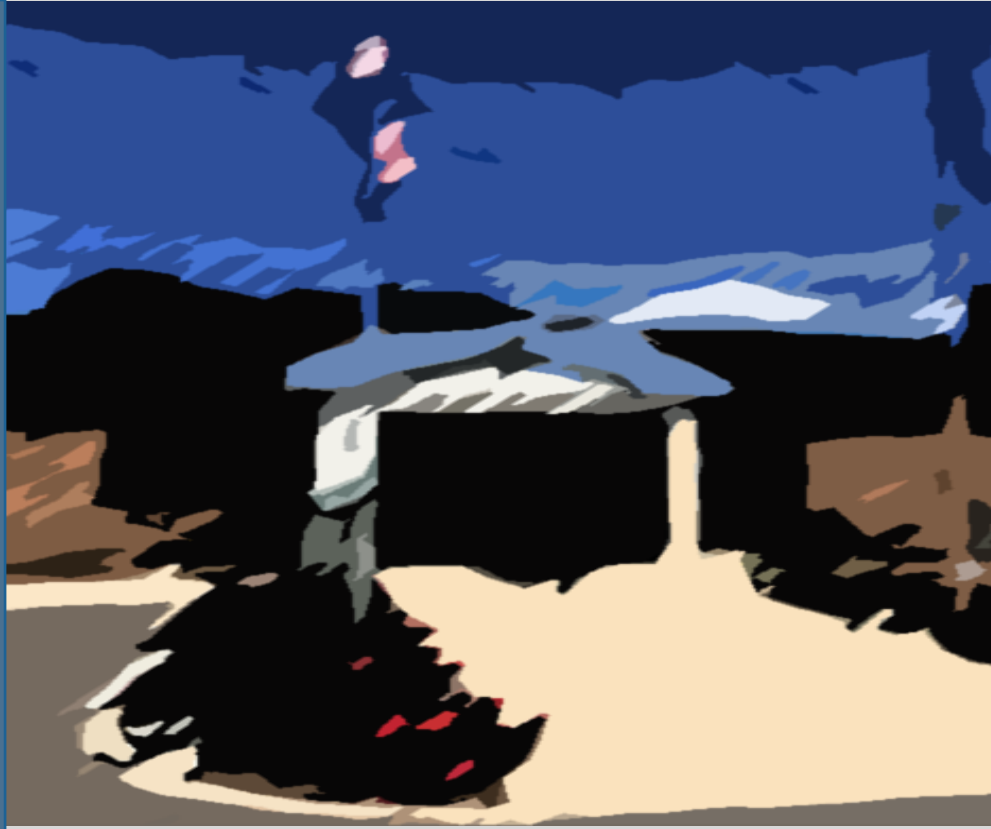


OUR MISSION

We, the members of the Lexington Police Department, exist to serve all people within our jurisdiction with respect, fairness, and compassion.

We are committed to the preservation of peace and the safeguarding of constitutional guarantees. With community service as our foundation, we are driven by goals to enhance the quality of life and fostering a sense of public trust by holding ourselves to the highest standards of performance and ethics.

The Lexington Police Department is dedicated to providing a quality work environment and the development of its members through effective training and leadership. Leadership, Pride, Duty; the foundation of our agency.



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Produced by the Lexington Police Department Office of the Chief.
Captain Mark E. Riley – editing
Detective Robert E. Smith – editing and design

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Central Dispatch / ECC Records
LPD Records

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LPD Photo Archive



The Lexington Police Department is an accredited law enforcement agency and meets the high Standards of the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies.

CHIEFS MESSAGE • CHIEF MARK E. RILEY



I am pleased to present the 2016 Annual Report for the Lexington Police Department. The statistics from 2016 are one example of how we measure our success in the responsibilities that our staff undertake to provide services to the City of Lexington. The low volume of crime is a reflection of the extraordinary level of cooperation we have with our City partners, the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office and, most importantly, our community. In 2016 Lexington was again named the 4th Safest City in Virginia by SafeWise.

We are committed to the pursuit of justice so that the community remains confident in our ability to serve and protect those that live, work and visit this great City.

The men and women of the Lexington Police Department fully understand that the trust bestowed upon us is earned each day through fostering and maintaining relationships between the police department and the community. As we move into 2017, we will continue to increase our efforts in creating opportunities that will encourage the exchange of ideas and information, so that we can continue to provide professional, competent and value based service.

This annual report is a reflection of the work we completed this past year and a brief look into your police department. I encourage you to learn more about us in 2017 by following us on social media, attending our neighborhood watch or interacting with me and my staff at the many community events scheduled. I look forward to the conversation.

Sincerely,

Mark E. Riley

Chief of Police

Lexington Police Department



Law Enforcement Oath of Honor

On my honor, I will never betray
my badge, my integrity, my
character or the public trust. I will
always have the courage to hold
myself and others accountable for
our actions. I will always uphold
the constitution, my community,
and the agency I serve.



Developed by the
International Association of Chiefs of Police
Committee on Police Ethics 2000

2016 ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

LEXINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Lexington proudly maintains a progressive, highly trained, technically skilled, energetic, diverse and well-equipped police department.

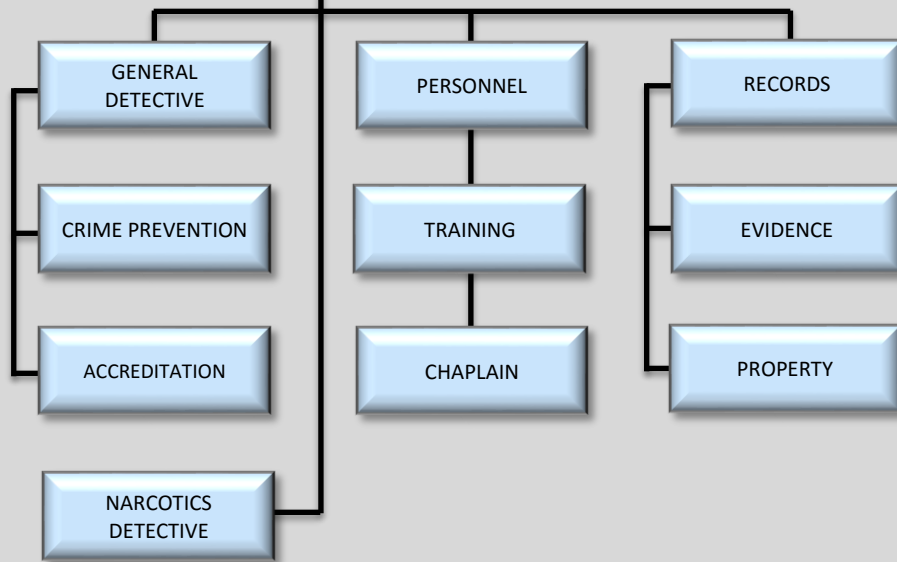
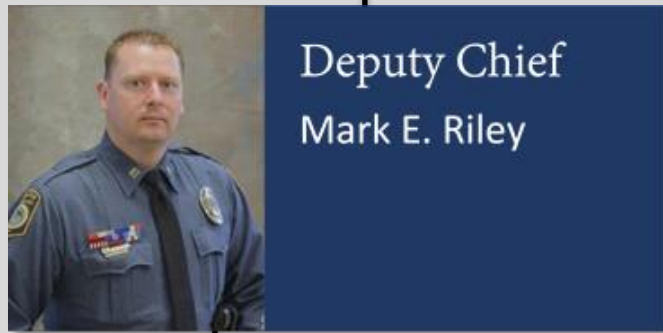
The Lexington Police Department has been accredited by the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission (VLEPSC) since 1998 and was reaccredited in 2002, 2006, 2010 and 2014. This is a significant accomplishment for the men and women of the department. VLEPSC accreditation is a rigorous and difficult process that, if achieved, affirms the professional status of law enforcement agencies statewide.

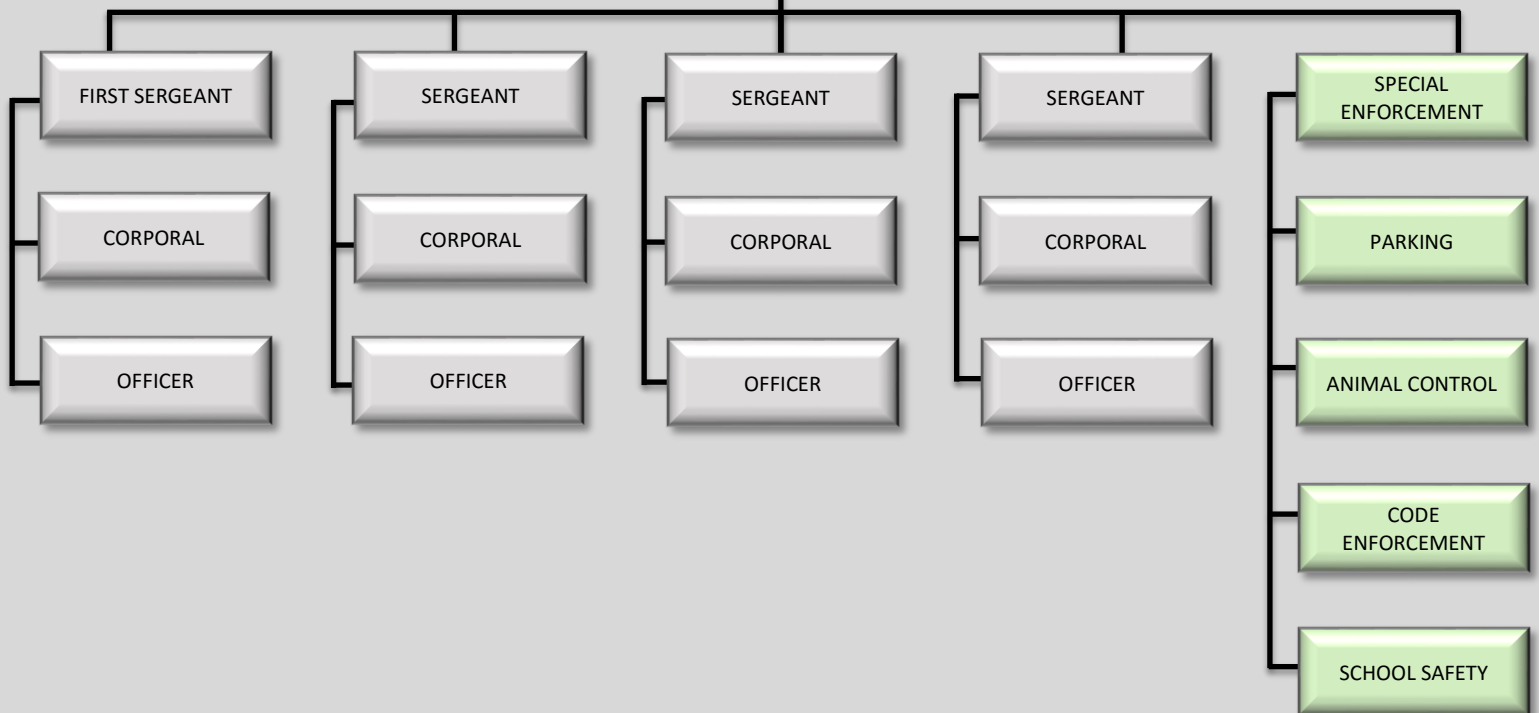


Chief of Police
Mark E. Riley



Executive Secretary
Vicki Pickle







LEXINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

LEXINGTON POLICE EMPLOYEE ROSTER

ADMINISTRATION

	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SERVING SINCE</u>
Mark E. Riley	Chief of Police	08/16/93
	Captain	
Michael R. Frost	Lieutenant	04/28/04
Vicki H. Pickle	Executive Secretary	05/28/14
Lori N. Condry	Records / Evidence Clerk	06/03/15

INVESTIGATIONS

Robert E. Smith	General Detective	12/15/09
Gregory W. Gardner	Narcotic Detective	06/24/08

PATROL

M. Scott Fitzgerald	First Sergeant	02/02/04
Michael E. Huffman	Sergeant	12/28/94
Cherie H. Padgett	Sergeant	07/04/05
Ronald D. Condry	Sergeant	01/03/06
Nathan B. Kesterson	Corporal	02/02/04
Jessica A. Burks	Corporal	06/08/11
Aaron W. Britton	Corporal	10/01/14
Elizabeth A. Stewart	Corporal	08/19/13
T. Keith Mohler	Police Officer	01/28/13
Zachary S. Bright	Police Officer	06/03/15
Ricardo L. Haston	Police Officer	01/04/16
VACANT	Police Officer	

SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT

Matthew D. Lombardi	Special Enforcement Officer	06/09/14
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SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD

Freddy Rogers	Crossing Guard	08/12/16
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LEXINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Lexington Police Department is commanded by the Chief of Police. During calendar year 2016, the Lexington Police Department (LPD) was authorized 18 sworn police officers and 5 civilian personnel to provide law enforcement services to the City of Lexington, Virginia.

Administration

The Deputy Chief (Captain) serves as the Commander of the Administrative Division and oversees the Records and Evidence Sections, Criminal Investigations, Narcotics Investigations, and the Professional Standards Unit.

Investigations

The Criminal Investigations Division (CID) Detective is assigned to the investigation of serious felony and misdemeanor offenses that occur in the City. The Detective is typically assigned to follow-up on incidents initially reported to patrol officers; detectives have the training and the necessary time to more thoroughly investigate reported criminal incidents in order to identify suspects, affect arrests, and successfully prosecute cases.

The Narcotics Detective is assigned primarily to major drug investigations and intelligence gathering efforts on individuals and groups involved in the distribution and trafficking of illicit narcotics in Lexington and Rockbridge County.

Patrol Division

The Lieutenant serves as the Commander of the Patrol Division and also oversees the Animal Control and Parking Enforcement Unit.

A Sergeant is assigned to command each of the four patrol shifts. The Sergeant is responsible for the leadership of the shift to ensure that goals and objectives are accomplished. Each patrol Sergeant is assigned a Corporal and Patrol Officers.

Special Enforcement Unit

The Lexington Police Department is responsible for Parking Enforcement and Animal Control Services. Special Enforcement Officers are equipped and trained to enforce the City parking and animal ordinances.

There are many domestic animal owners residing in our City. It is the goal of the Police Department's Special Enforcement Unit to ensure that these animals are protected from abuse, confined to the owner's property, and to protect our citizens from animal attacks and destruction of their property.

NOTIBLE EVENTS



OFFICER RICKY L. HASTON

The Lexington Police Department welcomed its newest family member, Officer Ricky Haston. Officer Haston successfully completed his basic academy training in June of 2016.

Officer Haston is a lifelong resident of Lexington, graduating from Rockbridge County High School in 2009. He obtained his Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Virginia State University in 2013.

Since beginning solo-patrol, Officer Haston has become a valued member of the Lexington Police Department.

CHIEF A.S. THOMAS

May 2016, Chief A.S. Thomas accepted a position with the City of Charlottesville, Virginia as Chief of Police.

Chief Thomas served as the Chief of Police for the City of Lexington for more than six (6) years.

Members of the community, family and friends joined together in celebration of Chief Thomas's accomplishments during his time with the Lexington Police Department and community.



COMMUNITY PICNIC

The Lexington Police Department hosted a 2nd Annual Community Cookout on July 13, 2016 at Richardson Park.

Police officers and community members came together for a casual and relaxed afternoon of great music, food, and youth activities.

The event was a great success due to the enthusiasm and positive spirit of all those who were involved.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes law enforcement-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, better places to live.

Area law enforcement agencies and members of the community all came together in August 2016 to ensure the success of this year's event.

Corporal A. Britton of the LPD co-coordinated the event with Deputy M. Cash from the Rockbridge County Sheriff's Office.

ACCREDITATION MANAGEMENT

Accreditation is the on-going process whereby agencies evaluate policy and procedure against established criteria, and have compliance with that criteria verified by an independent and authoritative body. The criteria, or standards, are policy development guidelines that represent a level of quality service delivery. The true indicator of compliance, however, lies with an evaluation by trained, independent professional peers.



In April 2016, the Lexington Police Department acquired and implemented a powerful accreditation management platform, PowerDMS.

PowerDMS provides a complete solution for the electronic maintenance and administration of written directives, personnel policies, interoffice memorandums and any other documents for which employees must be accountable. PowerDMS is designed specifically to replace a paper and physical policy and procedure book environment and provide a more efficient and user friendly interface.

PARKING MANAGEMENT



In 2016, the Lexington Police Department began its acquisition and implementation of a new Parking Management System, NuPark. Initial launch date, including sufficient time for BETA testing, is planned for early-spring 2017.

The NuPark Parking Management System was designed to leverage License Plate Recognition (LPR) technology in order to revolutionize the management of your parking operation. NuPark provides back-office software, in-field hardware, and e-commerce solutions designed

for permit management and parking enforcement. Built on a modern platform that integrates the latest technology with customer expectations, the NuPark Parking Management System offers tools and features that optimize daily workflow, improve operational efficiency and increase revenue.

YOUTH INITIATIVES



JUNIOR POLICE ACADEMY

The Lexington Police Department partnered with the Lylburn Downing Middle School (LDMS) and provided a Junior Police Academy Program (JPA) to eighth graders in the fall of 2016. The program will be continued again in 2017. The JPA is held each Tuesday and Thursday at LDMS during the fall semester. Junior Cadets received instruction on duties of a Police Officer, Investigative Procedures, Drug Awareness, Forensic Investigations, SWAT, and K-9 operations.

In addition, emphasis on leadership traits and citizenship were introduced and discussed within the training curriculum. The majority of the courses are scenario-based and require the use of actual police equipment. The program is designed to be both a challenging and rewarding experience for the Junior Cadets.

Law Enforcement Officers from the region, including the Virginia Military Institute Police Department, Rockbridge County Sheriff's Office, and the Lexington Police Department volunteer their time as instructors for the JPA.



COMMUNITY HELPERS

On August 30th, 2016 Lexington Police Officers met with children from Waddell Elementary School as part of their "Community Helpers" week to discuss good citizenship and what roles Police Officers play in the community.

The children had the opportunity to view police vehicles and equipment. To any law breakers out there that may be reading this, we have 50 new Lexington Junior Police Officers on patrol that are ready to correct any poor behavior, so think twice.

Thanks to the kids and teachers who made this demonstration so enjoyable.

HIGH SCHOOL INTERNSHIP

Lexington Police Department Internships are open to rising seniors at Regional High Schools. The LPD High School Internship Program was developed to provide students an opportunity to work with our professional staff and introduce them to the many aspects of law enforcement and enhance their understanding of the criminal justice system. In addition, students are introduced to the various career opportunities that await them should they decide to choose law enforcement as a career. Interns are asked to work a set number of hours per week; however, the schedule is flexible, enabling students to maximize the experience. Interns are usually assigned to the Criminal Investigations Division and spend time in other units in the department based on their interests and the amount of work available. This past summer we hosted one intern for an extended period in the LPD Internship Program. Rising Senior, Garrett Frascati was exposed to many exciting opportunities such as Officer Ride-alongs, Forensics Training, Tactical Operations, Crime Scene Investigation, etc.



Garrett Frascati



OFFICER RECOGNITION



SEO MATTHEW D. LOMBARDI

Special Officer Lombardi was awarded the Lexington Lions Club 2016 John Swink award for his dedication and service to the community. Special Officer Lombardi works tirelessly to regulate parking within the city and to assist with the needs of animals within the community. He also acts as the city's code enforcement officer.

Thank you Officer Lombardi for all that you do.

CORPORAL JESSICA A. BURKS

Corporal J.A. Burks was awarded the 2016 Mothers Against Drunk Driving award for her efforts in DUI enforcement for the City of Lexington. Her diligent efforts in locating, arresting and prosecuting drunk drivers along with similar efforts by her colleagues has helped to make Lexington one of the safest cities in Virginia.

We congratulate Corporal Burks on her accomplishment.

DETECTIVE ROBERT E. SMITH

Detective Robert E. Smith attended the Institute for Leadership in Changing Times (ILCT), an eight-day, intensive leadership education program. This program is designed for individuals who currently serve in or are soon to be promoted to mid-level management positions within their organizations.

This program is focused on the study of leadership at an intermediate level. The objective of this program is to develop emerging leaders by cultivating critical thinking skills, creative thinking processes, and professionalism.

In addition to classroom study, participants will manage a project assigned to them from their organization from start to finish, and conduct a presentation on the components and outcome of their project.



OFFICER ZACHARY S. BRIGHT



Officer Zachary S. Bright, a PFC in the Army National Guard, completed Combat Medic Training in 2016. The course took place between April 11 and August 12.

The combat medic specialist is primarily responsible for providing emergency medical treatment at point of wounding on the battlefield, limited primary care, and health protection and evacuation from a point of injury or illness.

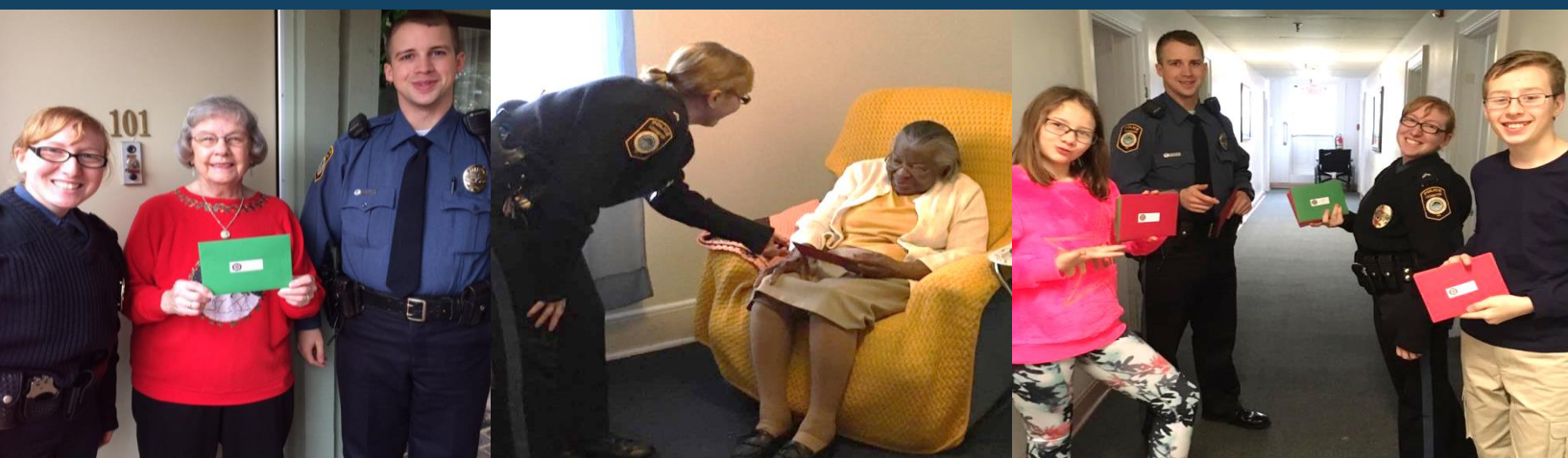
Job duties include the administering of emergency medical treatment to battlefield casualties, assisting with outpatient and inpatient care and treatment, instructing Soldier's on Combat Lifesaver/First Responder training course, and managing Soldier's medical readiness, medical supplies and equipment.

CORPORAL ELIZABETH A. STEWART

On Christmas Day, Cpl. Stewart, Officer Bright, and other members of the Lexington Police Department went door to door at each of the nursing and assisted living homes in Lexington, hand delivering Christmas cards to the residents.

The two police officers spent the morning- celebrating this season of giving. For the second year, police officers helped out by delivering Christmas cards to spread holiday cheer. Corporal Stewart explained in a local news interview, "I thought about a community project that we could do to give back to those older people that may not have people to come visit them during this time of year."

"Last year we had close to 300 but the number grows every year." Each card is addressed to a specific person and signed by everyone at the police department.



CRIME IN LEXINGTON – 2016

One of the hallmarks that most governments and citizens and many prospective residents look to in evaluating a community is crime and the perception of crime among residents. The Lexington Police Department recognizes that crime control is one of our critical missions.

The Lexington Police Department's commitment to a community policing organizational philosophy is considered to be one of the factors responsible for the reduction of crime that has occurred in the City of Lexington.

Although there are many factors that influence the reporting of crime, it is generally accepted that only a modest percentage of crime is ever reported to the police. The law enforcement community's primary objective with regards to the collection and analysis of crime data is to provide a reliable set of crime statistics for criminal justice and law enforcement administration, operation and management, as well as providing an objective measurement and indication of the overall level of crime.

LAW ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS

Police Related Assistance

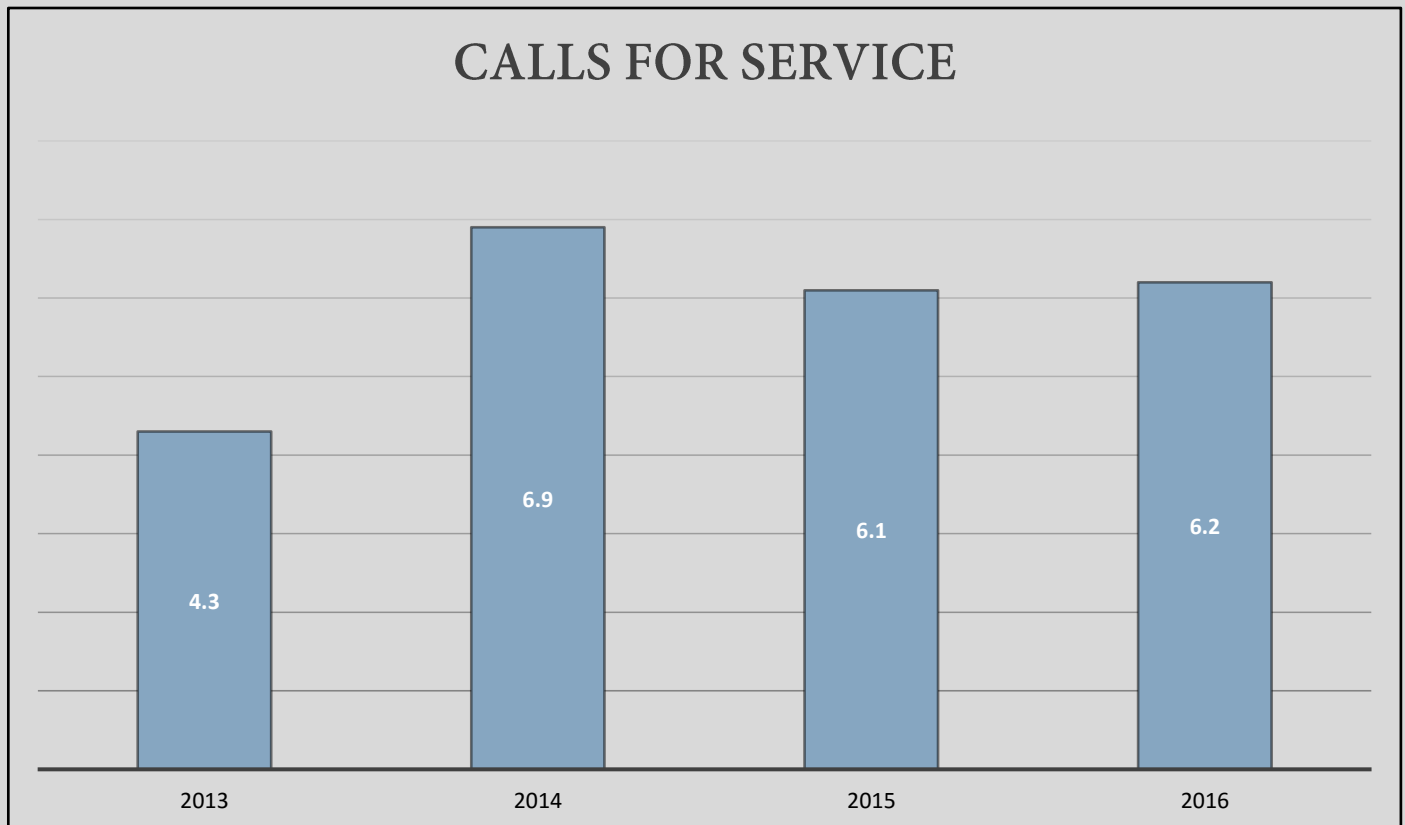
LPD Stats

The Lexington Police Department Crime Comparison Stats reflects an *increase* in Felony Arrests, Drunk in Public, and Possession of Marijuana during 2016 as compared to 2015:

The Lexington Police Department Crime Comparison Stats reflects *decreases* in Misdemeanor Arrests, Driving Under the Influence, Speeding, and Overtime Parking offenses during 2016 as compared to 2015:

CRIME STATISTICS

CRIME TYPE	2015	2016	CHANGE	% CHANGE
MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS	307	251	-56	-18.24%
FELONY ARRESTS	40	65	25	62.5%
DRUNK IN PUBLIC	57	67	10	17.54%
DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE	33	23	-10	-21.21%
SPEEDING	254	217	-37	-14.57%
OVERTIME PARKING	717	451	-266	-37.10%
MARIJUANA POSSESSION	14	21	7	50%



*NOTE: Calls for Service indicated as per thousand

COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION

The Lexington Police Department investigates all complaints made by citizens; complaints are typically deemed to be either an allegation of misconduct or a performance demeanor complaint.

Allegations of misconduct are complaints that allege corruption, misuse of force, violation of the law, violation of an individual's civil rights or a serious breach of department policy or employee rules of conduct.

Performance demeanor complaints typically allege an inappropriate action or response by an employee, improper operation of a police vehicle, violation of a department policy or employee rules of conduct or any other act or failure to act that does not rise to the level of an allegation of misconduct.

Upon conclusion of the investigation, each complaint is deemed to be one of the following:

Sustained – findings indicate there is sufficient evidence to prove the allegation or complaint

Non-Sustained – findings indicate there is insufficient evidence to prove or disprove the allegation or complaint

Exonerated – findings indicate there is sufficient evidence to prove the incident occurred, but the actions or demeanor of the employee was proper, lawful and/or within policy

Unfounded – findings indicate there is sufficient evidence to prove the allegation or complaint did not occur or was demonstrably untrue or false

Policy Failure – findings indicate there is sufficient evidence to prove the allegation or complaint occurred, but the actions of the employee were within LPD policy when the incident took place. This finding indicates the policy is faulty and in need of review or revision.

During 2016 there was four (4) complaints (allegation of misconduct) filed against a police department employee.

Findings for this was:

- 1 Procedure Review Completed for a minor complaint with three of the complaints investigated and determined to be unfounded.

No employee grievances were filed in 2016.

USE OF FORCE

Lexington Police Department policy dictates that police officers will use only that force necessary to protect life and affect lawful objectives. In addition to the use of physical force, police officers in Lexington are equipped with and trained to use Oleoresin Capsicum (“OC”) chemical spray, batons, Tasers and, when necessary, their firearms when performing their lawful duties.

Each member of the uniformed patrol staff is outfitted with the X26 Taser. The X26 Taser is a Less Lethal Electronic Control Device (ECD). Electronic Control Devices (ECD) use propelled wires or direct contact to conduct energy to affect the sensory and motor functions of the nervous system. The full implementation of the Taser is expected to significantly reduce the likelihood of both citizen and officer injury in the future due to a reduction in physical contact with combative individuals.

RESPONSE TO RESISTANCE REVIEW

During 2016, there were a total of 2 incidents that resulted in applications of force by individual officers. Every incident in which force is used by a Lexington Police Officer is thoroughly investigated and documented by supervisory staff and is reviewed through the department’s chain-of-command. Supervisory staff monitors officer activity to identify patterns and to provide for consistent, proactive intervention when appropriate.

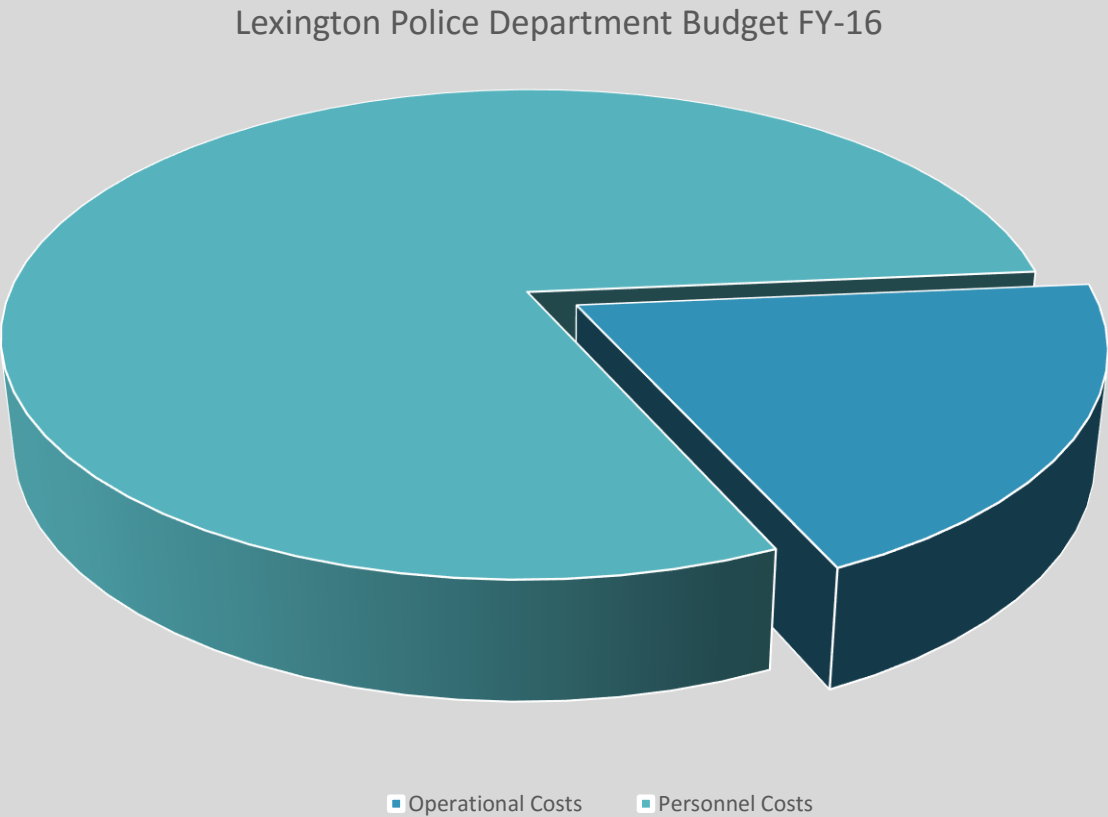
STATISTICAL SUMMARY

During 2016, officers with the Lexington Police Department utilized force in a total of 2 of the 316 arrests made; this translates to officers having used force in approximately .64 percent of arrests made. Less than 1 percent of all arrests made in the City of Lexington required force.

BUDGET INFORMATION

The Lexington Police Department budget is one component of the budget for the City of Lexington and is based on the City’s fiscal year from July 1 – June 30. The Police Department budget is actually composed primarily of two component budgets – the Police Department and the Special Enforcement Unit.

The total police department budget for FY-17 was \$1,741,789. Of this amount, \$1,378,139 was committed to personnel costs for salaries and benefits, leaving only \$336,650 (19.6%), for operational costs. As shown in the chart below, personnel costs constituted approximately 83% of the police department budget for FY-16.



OPERATIONAL BUDGET

FY-14	FY-15	FY-16	FY-17
\$309,150	\$313,420	\$290,270	\$336,650

CONTACTS

ADDRESS

11 Fuller St
Lexington, Virginia 24450

WEBSITE

www.lexingtonva.gov/173/Police

PHONE

Emergency 911
Non-Emergency 540.462.3705



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